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Claims

1. A composition comprising at least one ethanolamine derivative of formula (I), or a topically acceptable salt thereof:

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10 wherein in formula (I)  $\text{R}^1$  and  $\text{R}^2$  independently represent hydrogen,  $\text{C}_{3-6}$  cycloalkyl or  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkyl, optionally substituted with hydroxy, methoxy, oxo or formyl, and at least a polymerized wheat protein.

15 2. A composition according to claim 1 wherein  $\text{R}^1$  and  $\text{R}^2$  independently represent  $\text{C}_{1-4}$  alkyl.

3. A composition according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the ethanolamine of formula (I) is dimethylaminoethanol (DMAE).

20 4. A composition according to any of claims 1 - 3 wherein the ethanolamine of formula (I) is present as a glycolate or citrate or mixed glycolate/citrate salt form.

5. A composition according to claims 1 to 4 wherein the polymerized wheat protein is obtainable by a process comprising the following steps:

- 25 (a) solubilizing in an aqueous phase a material which is rich in wheat proteins;
- (b) hydrolyzing by enzymatic reaction in a controlled and limited manner the solution of 1) wherein the level of enzymatic hydrolysis is selected such that monomeric proteins with a molar mass between 20,000 Da and 300,000 Da are obtained;
- (c) separating the soluble phases from the insoluble phases;
- 30 (d) polymerizing the proteins by adding a suitable polymerizing agent.

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6. A composition according to claim 5 wherein the polymerized wheat protein has a molecular distribution such that the fraction having a molar mass over 500,000 Da is present in an amount which is in the range of about 30% to about 60% (weight %).

5 7. A topical formulation comprising a composition as claimed in claims 1-6 and further ingredients.

8. Use of a composition as claimed in claims 1-6 for manufacturing a topical or in particular a cosmetic formulation.

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9. Use of a composition as claimed in claims 1-6 or of a formulation as claimed in claim 7 for combating or treating the effects associated with the aging of skin.